

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11631 250901Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2147
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
USMISSION USNATO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11631

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, EEWT, TU, UR, CSCE
SUBJECT: ECEVIT TO VISIT USSR IN LATE JUNE

REF: ANKARA 3484

1. TURKISH EMBASSY COUNSELOR SURENKOK ADVISED MAY 24 THAT PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT WILL PAY THREE TO FOUR DAY VISIT TO USSR IN LAST TEN DAYS OF JUNE. ONE PURPOSE OF VISIT, HE SAID, WOULD BE TO SIGN A POLITICAL DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD INCLUDE PRINCIPLES OF GUIDELINES OF CONDUCT ALONG THE LINES OF THE HELSINKI DECLARATION.
2. SURENKOK WAS NOT INFORMED WHO WOULD ACCOMPANY ECEVIT ON TRIP BUT SPECULATED THAT DELEGATION WOULD INCLUDE FOREIGN MINISTER, MINISTER "INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCE (WE WONDER IF HE MEANT "ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES") AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE. HE FORESAW NO NEW ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS DURING THE ECEVIT VISIT, ALTHOUGH PRESENCE OF ECONOMIC MINISTERS ON THE DELEGATION WOULD SUGGEST THAT THERE WILL AT LEAST BE DISCUSSION OF THE ALREADY ACTIVE PROGRAM OF SOVIET ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN TURKEY.
3. COMMENT: TURKISH EMBASSY COUNSELOR WAS CAREFUL TO NOTE
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11631 250901Z

THAT VISIT TO MOSCOW IS DESIGNED TO REPAY KOSYGIN VISIT ANDHBAS INVITATION TENDERED TO PREVIOUS TURKISH GOVERNMENT. HE ALSO NOTED THAT IT WILL FOLLOW VISITS BY ECEVIT TO WESTERN EUROPE, WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK (REFTEL). NEVERTHELESS, VISIT TO MOSCOW TO SIGN HIGHLY VISIBLE POLITICAL AGREEMENT WITH TOP SOVIET LEADERSHIP WILL PROVIDE ECEVIT WITH CONVENIENT OPPORTUNITY TO

DEMONSTRATE THAT TURKEY, TOO, HAS AN EASTERN OPTION. AS
FOR SOME OF THE SOVIET ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WHICH COULD
ALSO BE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION HERE, AS THE TURKISH
COUNSELOR PUT IT, "WE KNOW IT'S NOT THE BEST, BUT IT'S
BETTER THAN WHAT WE HAVE NOW." MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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